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SERIES No. 4.

THE CONSERVATIVE MIS-RULE

Money Squandered Without Profit to the Farmer.

Liberal and Tory Works Compared.

The subjoined tables show the difference between the work of the two parties, taking the year ending June 30, 1891, as the last one which was entirely due to the Liberals, and that ending on June 30, 1896, in like manner for the Government:

COLONIZATION ROADS OPENED AND COMPLETED.

1890-91.

	Miles.	Arpents.
Winter roads	97	9
For wheeled vehicles	293	18
Fascined	38	21
Repaired	397	12
Total	825	05

1895-96.

Winter roads	145	9
For wheeled vehicles	179	27
Fascined	33	4
Repaired	318	7
Total	676	19
Difference between the two years to the advantage of the Liberals	153	02

The real difference is still greater as the Hon. Mr. Beaubien has counted under the head of Colonization roads many that have no right there. The winter roads in 1895-96 are unusually large; 49 miles must be deducted, which were opened in the county of Pontiac for the lumber men and for which they contributed $3,000,000. These are not colonization roads and must be taken off.

Another sixty miles must be deducted as roads which the Hon. Minister made with the public funds and which serve no other purpose in Loranger, Cantos, Ottawa County, than to enhance the said Minister's lands on the borders of Lake Nomingue and so enable him to re-sell them at high prices. These roads have no business in the table which justly stands as follows:

	Miles.	Arpents.
Under the Liberals	827	05
Under the Tories	856	00
True difference in favor of the Liberals, for one year	260	05

Taking the four years we get the following results:

	Miles.
Liberal, 1888 to 1892	2,957
Tory, 1892-1896	2,692
Difference in favor of the Liberals	10.205
Difference in favor of the Liberals	365

So far as bridges constructed in connection with Colonization Roads, are concerned the following tables will show how much the "TAXERS" have done for the colonists:

	Feet.
Liberal, 1882-1892, four years	57,092
Tory, 1892-1896, four years	46,877

Or in other words the Liberals constructed 25 per cent. more than the men who taxed the people.

The electors must not forget to deduct the 100 miles of roads which the Minister tries to get credit for and which as shown above were partly for the lumbermen and the rest for the PERSONAL BENEFIT OF THE MINISTER.

How the Colonization Money is Distributed.

Even the little that is given towards the development of the country is not fairly distributed. Wherever there is money to be distributed by the Government there must be somebody cajoled or coerced. So far as can be seen the sight of money has an utterly demoralising effect upon our saintly rulers. The end to be gained —keeping in power—peeps out in every transaction.

The money so grudgingly voted is used in but too many cases to assist political favorites and to attempt to buy the votes of the colonists.

It is wonderful too how many colonisation roads seem to be needed in old settlements. For example in the Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1894 we read as follows:

Levis. Road in front of the village des Couture in the parish of N.D de la Victoire	60.00
Levis. Road leading from St. Etienne to St. Lambert	58.70
Levis. " " " St. David to St. Henry	60.00
Levis. Lallemand Road in St. Joseph de Levis	60.00
Levis. Road in St. Lambert	59.25
Levis. Road leading from Chaudiere Junction Station	175.00
	$472.95

It requires a considerable stretch of the imagination to make these roads "Colonization" roads.

Not content with this contemptible manner of doing business they accentuate their partizanship by giving the money, not in accordance with the needs of each place, but according to the political stripe of the Representatives.

THE MINISTERS HAVE SIMPLY USED THE COLONIZATION MONEY AS A MEANS TO CORRUPT THE ELECTORATE.

This unpleasant truth was forced upon their attention by the following resolution proposed in the House by Mr. Bertratches and seconded by the Hon. Mr. Marchand, on December 28th, 1893, which is as follows: "This House is ready to vote the Supplies to Her Majesty, but observes with regret, in the distribution of the Legislative grant for colonization the Government has acted more in the interest of the party in power than for the real advantage of colonization, which is established by the fact that this grant amounting to $75,000.00, was distributed as follows:

MINISTERIAL COUNTIES.	
1. Argenteuil	$ 1,500.00
2. Bagot	400.00
3. Beauce	2,800.00
4. Berthier	1,350.00
5. Brome	400.00
6. Champlain	2,000.00
7. Chicoutimi and Saguenay	5,650.00
8. Compton	2,500.00
9. Dorchester	3,500.00
10. Drummond	500.00
11. Gaspe	4,000.00
12. Joliette	1,600.00
13. Kamouraska	1,500.00
14. Levis	475.00
15. Megantic	700.00
16. Montcalm	2,800.00
17. Montmorency	1,000.00
18. Nicolet	1,500.00
19. Ottawa	5,800.00
20. Lake St. John	7,900.00
21. Richmond	1,000.00
22. St. Maurice	100.00
23. Shefford	1,000.00
24. Sherbrooke	300.00
25. Stanstead	800.00
26. Temiscouta	2,700.00
27. Terrebonne	2,300.00
28. Vaudreuil	300.00
29. Wolfe	2,700.00
Visits and explorations	6,305.80
OPPOSITION COUNTIES.	
1. Arthabaska	300.00
2. Bellechase	500.00
3. Bonaventure	900.00
4. Charlevoix	1,270.00
5. L'Islet	300.00
6. Lotbiniere	200.00
7. Maskinonge	400.00
8. Matane	1,500.00
9. Portneuf	500.00
10. Quebec	300.00
11. Pontiac	1,700.00
12. Rimouski	400.00
13. Montmagny	400.00
Total	$75,000.00

"That it appears that out of this sum of $75,000 a sum of $66,400 was expended in twenty-nine counties represented in this House by members who are in favor of the present Government and who have supported its new policy on taxation, and $8,600.00 in thirteen rural counties represented by members opposed to the Government of the day and who have deemed it their duty to condemn its disastrous policy.

"That this unequal and unjust distribution of colonization moneys has the effect of unduly influencing the electors by depriving them in certain cases of the lawful share to which they are entitled.

"That this distribution has been made exclusively from a political point of view and has diverted the money from its legitimate and patriotic destination to make it serve for party purposes and electoral corruption.

"That this conduct indicates that the Government is devoid of the most elementary notions of justice, equity and respect for public opinion.

"That the action of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Colonization in recommending so arbitrary a decision to the Executive is an unqualified act of partisanship which tends to punish the electors who have freely exercised their franchise and shows that the honorable Minister inspired more by party spirit than by the desire to do justice to those entitled to it, is unable to administer with impartiality the important department of which he has charge and has shown himself to be unworthy the confidence of this House."

The motion was lost of course by the votes of the gentlemen who benefitted by the cash distribution. See Journals. Vol. XXVIII page 386-88.

In 1895 the Tory counties got $69,400.00 and the Liberal $6,336.00; the former averaging $2,393.00 per county and the later $576.00.

In 1896 the Tory counties got $79,800.00 and the Liberal $21,000.00.

In answer to a question put by Mr. Magnan on June 6th, 1892 the Hon. Mr. Beaubien said that: "The Government will see, that the moneys devoted to colonization, are distributed with justice everywhere." (See Journals. Vol. XXVI page 222) The Government's idea of justice is made evident by the way they distributed the money. Untrustworthy as usual.

Another example of justice can be seen in last year's returns. Ottawa County, for example, received $27,936.76. This large sum was mainly spent in four townships where large areas of land are owned by such good Tories as Sir Alex Lacoste, Hon. Mr. Beaubien, Mr. de Bellefeuille and so forth. Although municipalities are organized in that district yet the Government goes and takes the Public money to make the roads for these men. First they get the pick of the lands for a mere song and then the money made by the working men of the Province is taken to make the roads for these gentry.

What about the poor settlers fighting for life in Pontiac? They get $9,926.63 in 1896 they got the magnificent sum of $1,610.11 whilst Ottawa had $8,172.85. Bonaventure must needs be contented with $406.75 and $6,060.15 whilst the old County of Dorchester gets $3,197.63 and $2,489.65 in the two years; the reason is clear Dorchester is represented by the renowned Pelletier and so is taken care of with an eye to the election.

In 1895 Rimouski did not get one cent whilst in 1896 it received $390.59 so much for the county that needs all the help it can get; turning to Terrebonne although it has railways running through it, netted $1,889.37 and $3,461.70. How is this?

The first county is represented by a Liberal and Terrebonne by the Hon. Mr. Nantel the man of Court House fame. The lands of that Hon. gent must be attended to. This is the way the Colonization money is justly distributed.

The manner in which the Provincial authorities worked to help the Tories at Ottawa is plainly to be seen by the following letter which was made the theme of a question by Mr. Gosselin in the Quebec House on Dec. 12th, 1896. (See Journals. XXXI page 181.) It will be seen that the letter was written only three days before the Federal Elections.

Fraserville, 20th. June, 1896.

Riou & Chagnon.

Advocates.

Mr. Andre Cimon.

I have received instructions from the Government to direct you to at once commence work in the by-road of the 8th range of Viger to the West, leading down to the 7th range.

Send on your men and commence on Monday. You will have $50.00 to spend in this by-road. The official instructions will be transmitted you in a few days. In any case commence work at once. You are the foreman.

Yours

(Signed), S. C. Riou.

To Mr. Andre Cimon.

Of St. Francois Xavier

County of Temiscouatae.

On December 22nd, 1896, when Hon. Mr. Beaubien moved that the House do concur in the resolution that $100,000 be allotted for colonization roads for the year ending June 30th, 1898; Mr. Tessier (Rimouski), moved in amendment "that this House regrets to observe that the moneys voted for colonization under the present administration have been distributed in various places in the interest of the party in power, frequently during electoral campaigns through candidates who were friends of the party in power and contrary to the interest of the settlers of this Province.

"That this House deems it its duty to call the attention of the Government to the fact that it is urgent to give to colonization roads in counties which have had none since 1892, the share of moneys voted for colonization roads to which they were entitled." Lost by 34 to 20.

The need of such a motion is self-evident when the accounts for 1895 and 1896 are compared. In 1895 the following appears.

Bonaventure	$406.75
Gaspe	3,781.35
Matane	1,288.18
Rimouski	Nothing.
Total	$5,476.28

In 1896—the year of the Federal elections—things are very different:

Bonaventure	$6,060.15
Gaspe	4,654.61
Matane	3,000.45
Rimouski	399.59
Total	$14,114.80

The Hon. Mr. Flynn in his intense anxiety to keep the Gaspe peninsula in the Tory fold managed to increase the grant about 300 per cent. Still he failed.

The Government and the Colonists.

If there is one class of people more than another that the Government ought to protect it is the colonists. These men who are hewing out homes in the virgin forest and battling with all manner of troubles, the founders of new lands, the pioneers of an extended country. Our Tory friends, to hear them talk, at election times, are filled with the tenderest of feelings for these hardy sons of the soil; their upturned eyes rain tears of sympathy. The simple-hearted men believed them and their sanctimonious assertions. What have they done, after all? Let us see.

Mercier was generous to the colonist. No one doubts that. Means were provided whereby the men could get to market or what not.

The "honest" regime has made the colonist pay taxes and given him nothing in return. Bridges and colonisation roads are not to assist the colonist—that is one of these wicked Liberal ideas—they are to make the Minister's lands more valuable or to help a shaky man to keep his seat. The Tories have also shown their love for the pioneers by making them pay a tax on the buying or selling of a plot that costs a hundred dollars or so, whilst THE BIG MAN WHO BUYS HIS LIMIT COSTING FOUR OR FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS PAYS—NOT ONE CENT.

That's what the Tories have done for the colonists.

Prophecy and Fulfilment.

PROPHECY AND FULFILMENT.

In 1875 the Hon. Mr. Robertson, the then Treasurer, in reply to the remarks of those who dreaded the result of the railway policy, then in its infancy, said in a jokingly sarcastic way:

"I could not help shuddering at the statements put forth by certain parties as to the cost of these roads. It is fearful to contemplate the awful condition to which the Province will be reduced. According to some our debt will be increased by the proposed scheme to $16,000,000 for railway purposes; no possibility of cutting off expenditures; no possible way of increasing our revenue to meet this enormous debt, but by direct taxation.

"OUR POOR HABITANTS AND SETTLERS IN THE BACK WOODS WILL FIRST BE RUINED BY DIRECT TAXATION, AND THEN OBLIGED TO FLEE FROM THE PROVINCE TO EARN A SCANTY SUBSISTENCE ELSEWHERE."

The debt is not $16,000,000, but over $32,000,000. The poor habitants have been ruined by DIRECT TAXATION. The settlers have fled to other places, as the census abundantly proves. What was said in joke has become a sad fact. Whilst the whole Dominion increased some 13 per cent. in the years between the census of 1881 and that of 1891, the Province of Quebec did not advance 7 per cent. The reason is but too well known, the exodus of our own young people driven out by the injustice and extravagance of the Government, which is supposed to protect and encourage them.

Politics in Agriculture.

If the eloquent gasbags that represent the present bubble Government are to be believed, there was no such thing as agriculture before the beneficent Tory ruled the Province. Everything has been done by the present regime; we are not quite sure, but almost convinced, that ploughs and harrows are Tory inventions, and the science of agriculture the result of the profound meditations of Messrs. Flynn

and Co. in Council. Butter certainly was discovered by the Conservatives, and the art of "milking" we freely concede has been brought to a high state of excellence under the present regime.

What has been done for agriculture in this Province is to be used to cover up all the little slips of the "honest men," such as the Paris loan, the Beauport blunder, and the $2,809 for a judge's seat.

Leaving out of the question the hysterics of the men who are struggling for office and the venom of a subsidized press, what has the Government done for agriculture?

Farmers' Club.

Long before the Province ever heard of the present galaxy of talent there were agricultural clubs. It was not the intention of the former Government to destroy other associations when it founded the clubs. The present Government has used the clubs for that purpose, and, as a result, many societies, which were formerly vigorous and useful, have been swept out of existence, exhibitions which created a healthy rivalry have gone, and now we have a truly Tory product. Societies that are close boroughs where friends of Government can get a free advertisement for their goods or, if the deliberations attain more lofty heights, the solemn discussion of the price of a harrow intermingled with laudations of Tory animals and ploughs. For the purpose of assisting these useful assemblies in their work the Government gives large sums of money. As usual, there is something behind all this, according to its manner the Government has ever an ulterior object in view; whenever it moves look out for the outstretched hand and the demand for help in the election times.

It would be difficult for a stranger to see how politics could get in amongst ploughs and harrows, but with the knowledge that an investigation of the Haras National will give, it is quite clear that it is as easy for a pound of butter to be political as a mule or a "winded" horse. Mr. Decheme pricked the bubble in his speech on agriculture given last session. From that it is as clear as possible that these societies are, but too often, nothing better than a means for the Government to have a series of clubs in every parish which it can turn into political machines in the time of need. Not only at election times, but at all times, these clubs are used, or rather abused, by the Ministers and others of the right stripe to talk politics to the electors. The discourses are not on purely agricultural subjects, but are defences of the Government. The Ministers dare not come out into the country and talk at the time of their misdeeds, as, for instance, after the Paris loan, so they go to the agricultural clubs, and under the cover of talking about butter and eggs, hold forth on the virtues of Tory rule.

Not only has the Government managed to turn these clubs into political meetings, but it has devised another scheme by which it still further assists its friends. According to 57, Vict., cap 9, every club must take in the "Journal d'Agriculture," the subscription list being deducted from the Provincial grant. This does not look like double dealing on the surface, but it must be remembered that the paper is printed by Eusebe Senecal and Son, whose touching affection for the "Holy" Minerve and the Tory chiefs is an [illegible] spectacle to the whole Province. Thus by that innocent little clause in the law the redoubtable Messrs. Eusebe Senecal and Son were enabled to draw from the Government $13,341.30 for the year that closed on June 30th last year.

Under the Tories these clubs are practically defunct so far as any real good to the farmers is concerned.

What the Farmers' Clubs Cost.

The advance of the common good ought to be the object of all. It is not so. Even in agriculture the Tories will do nothing that does not assist them politically. The Liberals have shown their desire to assist the farmers by protesting against the antipatriotic action of the Government in making so-called economies in agricultural grants. The Liberals alone, protest, and, will continue to protest against such allocations as are used, ostensibly for one thing, but in reality for another. Agricultural grants ought to assist the farmers in their hard struggles. They, the toilers, ought to have the benefit, and not the political hangers-on who use the name of agriculture for the purpose of hiding the sums of money which they draw, and for which they do nothing.

It is well to compare the cost of the clubs with the results. Amounts given to the Farmers' Clubs :—

1893-94...	$20,487.33
1894-95...	28,526.33
1895-96...	30,000.00
For 1896-97 they have voted (ordinary budget).	40,000.00
Supplementary estimates... ...	10,000.00
Total...	$129,014.66

Besides these sums there are others coming under the head of "Encouragements for Agriculture"; these will be noticed later. The question for the elector who lives in the country is: Considering the enormous sums spent on farmers' clubs, has the result been such as to justify the outlay?

Agriculture in General.

In turning over the Public Accounts, the above innocent-looking title appears. However innocent it looks it covers up a host of scandalous extravagances. Here are a few. (See page 137, 1895):

Printing the Hon. Commissioner's speech..	$300.00
Plans of barns and stables..	288.76
The Commissioner of Agriculture's expenses to Chateauguay and Terrebonne..	25.00
The Commissioner of Agriculture's journey to Ottawa..	40.00
The Commissioner of Agriculture's attending Farmers' Clubs in Arthabaska, etc..	75.00
Dr. Grignon, visiting the Experimental Farm at Ottawa..	15.00
J. C. Chapais, travelling expenses attending the meeting of the Foresters' Association at Brooklyn, U.S.A....	99.68
A. M. F. d'Eschambault, postage stamps..	200.00
E. A. Bernard, Hon. Thomas Chapais' brother-in-law, for his "Manual d'Agriculture..	1,350.00
E. A. Bernard, author's rights... ...	138.00
For April, May and June..	3,947.57
Total..	$18,487.57

It is a favorite fiction of the Tories that the Journal of Agriculture costs the Province nothing. The Public Accounts show that this is a barefaced and unwarrantable perversion of the truth. On page 137 we find E. Senecal & Son publishing the Journal of Agriculture in English and French, for six months.. ... ... $6,905.00

And again in the same year on page 129, under the heading of Agricultural Societies, E. Senecal & Son, for publishing the Journal of Agriculture in English and French, for 6 months. 6,436.80

Total for one year.. ... ... $13,341.80

In 1896 the Journal cost us:

E. Senecal & Son, printing from July, 1895, to March, 1896.....$11,540.00

It must be remembered that Messrs. Senecal & Son, the proprietors of La Minerve, have only the printing of the Journal, the editing costs a large sum over and above that which the Senecals draw.

The appended are some of the items for the year 1895-96:

A. R. J. Fust, editor of English Journal..	$800.00
A. R. J. Fust, articles written for Journal (curious to pay an editor for writing in his own paper)	64.22
J. D. Leclair, articles for Journal.	5.00
J. C. Chapais, articles for Journal.	160.00
P. Macfarlane, articles for Journal...	40.00
Gabriel Henry, articles for Journal..	5.00
Elie Bourbeau, articles for Journal...	5.00
M. Gagne, articles for Journal..	10.00
A. G. Gilbert, articles for Journal.	40.00
George Moore, articles for Journal..	50.00
Emile Castel, articles for Journal.	80.00
Anzais Turenne, articles for Journal..	5.00
Rev. Ladies of the Ursulines, Roberval..	10.00

The following are amongst the things which are said to be for the advance of agriculture:

G. A. Gigault, gratuity....	$100.00
S. J Andres, services and expenses re incubators at Oka...	316.00
Grant towards the salting and smoking of meat..	200.00

It is to be borne in mind that this very school received the same year a Government grant of $4,500.000.

Dairy Products.

If it were possible for any man to believe the Government organs and orators one would be led to think that previous to the coming of the "honest men" into power that such a thing as a cheese or butter factory was as rare as a Tory Minister who kept his pre-election promises.

We freely grant to the Government all the honor it can get out of the Paris-Valliere-Beauport concoction, but we must draw the line at its claim to have invented cheese and butter factories. The Public Accounts will prove this to be a mistake.

The subjoined tables give what was done before the advent of the Tories:

June 30, 1888.

Dairy Association of the Province of Quebec	$1,000.00
Cheese and butter factories (creameries)	2,000.00

June 30, 1889.

Cheese and butter factories	$5,000.00
Dairy Association	1,000.00

June 30, 1890.

Cheese and butter factories	$5,000.00
Dairy Association	1,000.00

June 30, 1891.

Cheese and butter factories	$5,000.00
Dairy Association	1,000.00

June 30, 1892.

Cheese and butter factories	$6,000.00
Dairy Association	1,000.00

This shows that in three years the grants rose from $2,000.00 to $6,000.00 in aid of the cheese and butter factories; these were then in existence and their number was increasing daily. The prosperous condition of these factories before 1892 is too well-known to be disputed. All the present Government has done is to continue the work of its predecessors and to reap the fruit of their labors.

The previous Government encouraged all branches of Agriculture, whilst the present has but attempted to bolster up the cheese and butter industries; with results but too well-known to the farmers.

Agricultural Rewards.

The rewards given for merit in Agriculture and the meetings in connection with them were the work of the Liberal Government. Many will remember the great meeting which took place at the distribution of the prizes.

The present Government has never dared to face the people in like manner. Indeed so changed are things that the Hon. Commissioner has been known to arrive with the medals in his pocket and to distribute them in the dusk as if ashamed of himself. These hole and corner proceedings are an admirable example of the Government which dared not face the electors in four constituencies till the death of Parliament compelled it to do so.

Grants for Agriculture.

The present Government is so strong upon being the father of agriculture in the Province, that a comparison of what it has done in that direction as compared with the preceding regime is a matter of much interest. Taking the two years 1890 and 1892 we find the following state of things:

1890.	
Agriculture in general	$ 98,636.04
Colonization	140,000.00
Immigration	8,744.28
Repatriation	2,221.25
Total	$249,602.37

Special expenditures in the interest of Agriculture in general:

Amendments to the Municipal Code	$ 250.00
Surveys in the counties of Chicoutimi and Saguenay	2,000.00
Assistance to the inhabitants of the Labrador shore	3,344.14
Iron bridges	76,460.42
Surveys in Dorchester etc	3,824.60
	$ 87,379.06
Total	$342,031 12

1900.

Agriculture	$166,464.09
Immigration	4,250.00
Colonization	116,100.00
	$286,814.09

Special expenses for Agriculture:

Iron bridges in the municipalities	$ 3,000.00
Assistance to the sufferers from forest fires in 1895	3,500.00
Assistance to the sufferers at Point aux Esquimaux	1,607.82
Assistance to the sufferers at Point Louis etc	308.30
Aid to sufferers from the inundation of River St. Anne	6,146.05
	$ 14,562.17
	$286,814.09
Total	$301,376.26

It will be seen who is the friend of the agriculturist. Especially when it is remembered that in the Tory account such items as the following are to be found: Haras National, $30,000.00, enormous increases in the grants to the schools for Agriculture, schools which are complete failures as we shall see by and bye and sundry sums spent on Farmers' Clubs and so called agricultural lecturers.

Sums Spent on Iron Bridges Under the Now Regimes.

Liberal.

1888	$ 25,000.00
1889	50,000.00
1890	76,400.00
1891	100,000.00
Total	$251,400.00

Voted under Mercier, but used, for the most part, by the present Government.

1892...Iron Bridges	$ 99,929.09

Tory.

1893	$ 48,000.00
1894	51,116.50
1895	4,081.50
1896	3,000.00
Total	$106,198.00

No one can doubt that these bridges were a distinct necessity in a country like Quebec, yet the present Government which can afford to contract the Paris Loan, make Charlebois a present of $80,000.00 and indulge a Lieutenant-Governor's expensive fancies in the way of china and silverware must needs cut down the money which enables the pioneers to get to the market with their produce and earn an honest living for themselves and their families. If this is fully realized in the back-country Mr. Flynn and his friends will not get the chance to repeat this policy of lavishness for the rich and miserliness for the poor.

LECTURES ON AGRICULTURE.

After the accession of the "honest men" they suddenly became impressed with the vast amount of ignorance and prejudice to be found amongst the agricultural classes; to enlighten ignorance is a good thing, but when we consider the state of the Elementary Schools of the Province, under the present Government, this sudden conversion upon the subject of Agriculture makes one suspicious that there must be some occult reason beyond that which is paraded for the benefit of the public. A very little research will show the usual; offices for friends, or in other words excuses for giving money to the trusty ones, quite irrespective of qualification mental or otherwise.

The Accounts reveal a roll of lecturers who get all their expenses and $5.00 for each lecture, or a nice little salary. The lists suffice to show what a burden is placed on the shoulders of the unhappy taxpayers, in order that the farmer may hear a fine selection of theorists talk to him about the blessings of a Tory Government and how much better wheat grows and milk churns under the rule of the "honest men" who spend his money for him.

1891-92.

O. E. Dallaire, lecturer. Expenses	$ 8.80
Georges Moore, lecturer, expenses	190.60
E. Rousseau, lecturer, expenses	25.60
J. A. Caron, lecturer, expenses	29.60
J. B. D. Schmooth, lecturer, expenses	142.48
Rev. J. A. Moreau, lecturer, expenses	29.00
E. A. Bernard, lecturer, expenses	109.05
O. E. Dallaire, lecturer, expenses	203.35
O. E. Dallaire, salary to May, 30, 1892	120.00
Total	$899.72

1892-93.

O. E. Dallaire, 12 months' salary as lecturer	$ 1,000.00
O. E. Dallaire, travelling expenses	466.34
G. Moore, lecturer	165.25
E. A. Bernard, lecturer	199.50
J. B. D. Schmooth	17.21
A. P. Fortin, lecturer	72.95
J. J. A. Marsan, lecturer	17.20
M. X. M. Dequoy, travelling expenses to Convention at St. Hubert	27.50
H. Nagant, travelling expenses re Convention, St. Therese	20.00
Hon. L. Beaubien, travelling expenses to Convention	125.00
Sundry travelling expenses to Conference at Quebec	775.65
Total	$ 2,775.65

1893-94.

O. E. Dallaire	$750.00
Dr. Coulombe	980.15
G. Moore	742.71
Dr. Grignon	664.25
Saul Cote	335.30
M. G. Blain	294.50
Pacifique Nantel	281.25
A. E. Bernard	246.25
J. J. A. Marsan	83.80
O. E. Dallaire, salary	1,000.00
Dr. Grignon, salary	800.00
B. Lippens	32.00
G. Buchanan	26.75
J. B. Guay	25.20
Rev. F. P. Cote	15.00
D. C. Boutbeau	10.80
J. B. D. Schmooth	6.75
Sundries	895.00
	$6,995.00

1894-95.

J. B. A. Richard, lecturer	$49.40
A. N. Neilson, lecturer	15.30
Dr. Grignon, lecturer	137.85
Dr. Coulombe, lecturer	68.00
O. E. Dallaire, lecturer	50.00
G. Moore, lecturer	51.15
Dr. J. E. Tremblay, lecturer	100.00
J. J. A. Marsan, lecturer	57.37
E. Lorquet, manuscript of a lecture	5.00
Dr. Coulombe, lectures	1,097.80
Dr. Grignon, lectures	1,090.65
G. Moore, lectures	822.65
O. E. Dallaire, lectures	320.00
G. Buchanan, lectures	84.40
J. B. A. Richard, lectures	69.50
J. P. Nantel, lectures	68.00
A. N. Neilson, lectures	56.00
A. E. Bernard, lectures	55.00
B. Lippens	40.00
O. Gigueres, lectures	30.00
J. D. Guay, lectures	28.75
J. J. A. Marsan, lectures	25.25
J. A. Lalonde, lectures	15.00
Rev. Dom Antoine, lectures	10.00
Bishop of St. Hyacinthe, for agricultural missionaries	93.00
Dr. Grignon, salary as Agricultural Lecturer	1,200.00
O. E. Dallaire, salary as Agricultural Lecturer	1,000.00
	$6,670.67

1895-96.

O. E. Dallaire, salary as lecturer	$1,000.00
" " " travelling expenses	450.00
Dr. W. Grignon, salary as lecturer	1,200.00
Dr. W. Grignon, travelling expenses	816.66
Geo. Moore, services and expenses	705.08
Dr. J. C. Coulombe, do	1,015.00
J. B. A. Richard, do	371.00
J. P. Nantel, do	317.99
Rev. L. O. Tremblay, do	240.00
L. J. A. Marsan, do	1,121.99
Dr. J. E. Tremblay, do	134.29
P. Macfarlane, do	12.00
J. C. Chapais, do	45.00
C. Thibault, do	8.00
J. A. Chartrand, do	13.00
S. J. Andres, do	5.00
Geo. Buchanan, do	41.00
Hon. L. Beaubien, do	33.00
J. R. A. Bourgeault, stenographing a lecture	6.00

Archbishopric of Montreal, lectures by agricultural missionaries	
20 lectures in the Monument National	375.00
Total	100.00
	$5,811.07

The totals for the several years of the Tory rule are as follows:

1891-92	
1892-93	$899.72
1893-94	2,775.65
1894-95	6,806.90
1895-96	6,670.07
Total	5,811.07
	$23,053.01

It is unnecessary to point out what good might have been done with these wasted thousands; permanent good, instead of the fleeting words of theoretical windbags. The country folk needed help and they have got the ordinary Tory help—oceans of talk.

Bounty for Butter Exportation

The Tory papers have made a great fuss about this butter bounty. What it really amounts to can be seen from Sessional Paper, No. 49, under date of December 4th, 1896, which shows that the amount paid from June 30th, 1896, to December 1st, 1896, was $1,165.09, the details being:

Croil & McCullough	$383.60
A. A. Ayer & Co.	393.63
Prefontaine & Bro.	118.72
Cote, Boivin & Co.	250.00
A. A. Fraser	14.00
	$1,165.09

It does not appear from this that this new policy of the Government has produced much enthusiasm; it certainly has had disastrous effects in some quarters.

The chief cheese and butter merchants of Montreal have protested against this silly policy. The following letter received by a Liberal member from a business man in Montreal will show the objections to the notion of His Excellency of the Haras National.

"Dear Sir:—

As I know that you have always taken a profound interest in the dairy work of this Province, I write to draw your attention to the way in which the bounty, accorded by the Government for the encouragement of butter making, is distributed.

"In the first place, I consider that the bonus paid by the Government instead of developing the trade has rather been prejudicial to it when we consider that the creameries in general have not participated in the distribution which has been made to certain persons and that the persons so favored, have, by this means, been able to lower the price of other factories not so favored.

"Thus, for example, suppose A buys butter from creamery B, which receives the Government bonus, and pays, say, 18 cents a pound, with the understanding that A and B divide the bonus between them, and then goes to C, who does not receive the Government bonus, and says that he can buy butter from B for 18 cents and that he will not pay more; he thus compels C to lower his price. So the creameries which receive nothing from the Government have not only to suffer from the lack of bonus, but also by the lowering of the price by half a cent per pound or more.

"In this way the bounty is not only a loss to the Province, but also to the maker."

This pricks another of the glittering soap bubbles which the Government blows for the amusement of its faithful children.

Agricultural Schools.

In 1893 these schools cost as follows:

Agricultural Schools—two French and one English	2,400.00
School of Agriculture—for pupils' work	1,000.00
College of Agriculture—Richmond	1,000.00
	$4,400.00

In 1891 they cost:

Agricultural Schools	$2,400.00
For pupils' work	1,500.00
	$3,900.00

Under the "honest men" the amounts are as follows:

July 30, 1893	$10,000.00
June 30, 1894	16,000.00
June 30, 1895	15,000.00
June 30, 1896	21,000.00

This shows that the average is $15,500.00 per annum or some $12,000 more than under the previous regime. That this is a waste a consideration of the work, not done, by these schools will amply prove. Besides these large sums there are extras such as:

Agricultural School, Oka.

Balance of grant for 1895-96	$5.00
Incubation apparatus	20.00
Grant towards the smoking and salting of meats	200.00
Agricultural Chemical laboratory.	15.00
Salary of professor of Gruyere cheese manufacture	110.00

Agricultural School, Compton.

Supplementary grant for 1895-1896	$265.00
Agricultural School, L'Assomption Winter course (Rev. J. B. Jobin).	$200.00

The same schools have, besides the above sums, also received the usual excessive grants as follows.:

Compton	$6,300.00
Roberval	1,300.00
Oka	4,500.00
L'Assomption	4,500.00
Ste. Anne	4,500.00
Total	$21,000.00

(See Public Accounts, 1896, pages 132, 134, and 166.)

The Model Farm, Compton.

We here present to the notice of the electors an account of what the Compton Farm has cost the Province, as furnished by the Minister of Agriculture himself.

For Maintenance:

1894-95	$4,000.00
1895-96	3,375.00
1896-97	1,125.00

Special grants:

1894-95	$5,000.00
1895-96	3,190.08
1896-97	5,000.00
1896-97	500.00
	$22,190.08

Here we are face to face with an extraordinary specimen of economy; the GOVERNMENT HAS EXPENDED OVER TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS OVER A SCHOOL WHICH HAD ONLY ONE PUPIL IN 1894-96 AND NOT MORE THAN TWO OR THREE IN 1895-96.

Farmers, what do you think of that?

History of the Model Farm at Compton.

The story of this attempt at teaching agriculture is given in Mr. Dechene's amendment, moved in the House on December 22nd, 1896, which we give.

That, whereas, on the 19th of March, 1894, a contract was entered into between the corporation of the village of Compton and the Government, by which the said corporation undertook to place at the disposal of the Government or the trustees, a farm situate in the municipality of the village of Compton, containing at least one hundred and fifty acres of land, sub-divided, together with the buildings thereon erected.

That this farm was to serve as a school and that the Government, undertook to pay for the said farm an amount of five thousand dollars ($5,000), during the year 1895, and an annual sum of four thousand dollars ($4,000), for four years, counting from the 1st May, 1895.

They to be entitled to such annual sum of four thousand dollars, the number of students admitted and continually residing on the said farm for the purpose of receiving agricultural instruction was to be at least fifteen throughout the year.

That it was further stipulated that if the average number of pupils during the year were less than fifteen, the Government would be entitled to retain one-fifteenth of the $4,000 for each pupil less than the required number.

That it appears, by the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the year ending 30th June, 1894, that during the course of the said year, the number of pupils was only six.

That the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Colonization for the year ending 30th June, 1895, contains the following: "During the early part of this season it was thought advisable at a meeting of trustees, and resolved that until a competent professor could be secured to take charge of them no students would be received." (Extract from the report of the trustees of the Compton Model Farm.)

That, in fact, there were no students at the said Model Farm during the year ending June 30th, 1895.

That at page 22 of the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Colonization for the year 1895, the following ap-

pears: "I have had three pupils all winter and four since spring; the house being full, not a bed to spare. . . . . .

"(Signed), JOHN LEMOINE."

That although the said farm has not fulfilled the conditions of the contract between it and the Government, nevertheless, upon the 19th March, 1894, the Government paid the following sums, as appears by a return to an address of the Legislative Assembly, dated the 30th November, 1896. (Sessional Paper, No. 46.)

A statement of sums paid to the trustees or manager of the Compton Model Farm for putting and maintaining the said farm in operation, from its foundation to the 25th November inst., 1896, including costs of construction, improvements, and the annual grant:

For its maintenance the Compton School received:

During the year 1894-95	$4,060.00
During the year 1895-96	3,375.00
During the year 1896-97	1,125.00

As special grants for repairs of buildings the school has received:

During the year 1894	$5,000.00
During the year 1895-96	3,190.08
During the year 1896-97	5,000.00
During the year 1896-97	500.00
Total	$22,190.08

Statement of sums paid during the same period by way of contingencies for costs of inspection of the said institution, travelling expenses for its organization or reorganization, costs of legislation, contracts, registration thereof and names of persons to whom such amounts have been paid during the same period.

Gabriel Henry, travelling expenses . .	$ 9 20
Hon. L. Beaubien, travelling expenses and those of the trustees to the Compton School	62 00
G. A. Gigault, two trips to Compton School	35 60
L. Simoneau, printing and translation of bill re Compton farm . .	29 05
S. Sylvestre, travelling expenses . .	4 60
Cate and Wells, advocates	12 00
E. R. Worthington, notary for contract, etc	55 40
Sundry printing "Pionnier" and "Official Gazette	14 68
	$213 62

A statement of the sums promised to the said farm and conditionally due, over and above the ordinary grants and the purposes for which such promises, if any have been made.

Answer. For building a creamery, with ice houses and cold storage $2,675.

That the Government has further promised the same persons the sum of $2,675.00 towards the construction of a creamery with ice house and cold storage on the same farm.

That these sums have been expended contrary to the promises made by the Government at the last general elections, to existing contracts and constitute a squandering which is contrary to the real interest of agriculture in this Province.

The said motion in amendment put to the vote, was negatived on the following division:

Yeas.—Bisson, Bourbonnais, Caron, Ccoke, Dechene, Gillies, Girard (Rouville), Girouard, Gladu, Gosselin, Guerin, Lemieux, Lussier, Marchand, Parent, Pinault, Stephens, Tessier (Portneuf), Tessier (Rimouski), and Turgeon. 20.

Nays.—Allard, Baker, Beaubien, Beauchamp, Bedard, Bouffard, Cartier, Chateauvt, Cholette, Chicoyne, Desjardins, Doyon, Duplessis, England, Girard (Lake St. John), Greig, Grenier, Hackett, Lacouture, McClary, McDonald, Magnan, Merion, Martineau, Nantel, Normand, Panneton, Parisseau, Pelletier, Petit, Poirier, Rioux, Savaria, Simpson, Spencer and Tetreau. 36.

No Pupils.

Our Agricultural Schools cost us some TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS per annum; with such an outlay there ought to be some practical result yet the Minister of Agriculture has admitted that although these schools have been in existence for thirty years they have never been a success. In spite of this our economic Government has started another one at which bids fair to do as the one at Richmond did; swallow up thousands, do no practical good and then close its doors.

If there were any need to prove how little enthusiasm the subject stirs amongst the general public the fact that it is necessary to have a campaign to find the pupils, would amply convince the most stubborn. Yet this is literally a fact, as the following will show.

Sessional Paper No. 73; [illegible] on the table of the House last Session.

(1) How much has been expended in the propaganda for the recruiting of pupils for the Agricultural schools from June 30, 1895 to June 30, 1896?

Answer.—TheThe Archbishop of Montreal has received $175.00 to secure the services of Rev. Canon Racicot and later of Rev. P. Lacasse. Dr. Grignon whilst giving lectures on agriculture gives special attention to the enrolling of pupils, he draws his salary of $100.00 per month and has also drawn an extra $316.85 for travelling expenses.

(2) How much has been spent for the same purposes from June 30, 1896 to the 1st December instant and to whom have the various sums been paid?

Answer.—The Archbishop of Montreal has received the sum of $150.00 for the services of the Rev. P. Lacasse and Dr. Grignon expended $35.00 for travelling expenses which has been refunded by the Department. Dr. Grignon continues to draw his monthly salary and in addition the sum of $153.95 for travelling expenses.

(3) How many pupils have been recruited?

Answer.—The Department does not possess exact information on this subject, but by comparing the number of pupils in the various schools on June 30, 1895 with the present number it is easy to determine the results of the campaign conducted by Rev. M. Racicot, Rev. P. Lacasse and Dr. Grignon:

Number of pupils on June 30, 1895 .. 48
Number of pupils at present.... 79

(4) How many have been enrolled in each school?

Answer.—The Department is not in a position to give any information.

(5).—How long have these pupils stayed in each school?

Answer.—Same reply.

To increase the number of schools when the pupils are missing seems a bit strange to ordinary mortals; but then it is the Government we are dealing with.

The Compton School on June 30, 1896, had only three pupils; the School of Farm Domestic Economy at Roberval, in spite of its high-sounding name, hadn't any. From Sessional Paper 43, last session, it appears that in spite of the labors of the scholar hunters the number of pupils—even temporarily—on November, 26 was only 80.

If the sum it costs the Province to keep these schools be divided by the number of pupils after this costly campaign it will be found that each pupil costs TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS per annum and that without counting the expenses of the recruiting sergeants. Is the game worth the candle?

What do we get in Return for all the Money Spent on the Agricultural Schools?

Answer as seen everywhere. NOTHING. It is startling, but unfortunately too true, that the few who have had the "benefit" of the training, when they have put it into practice, have been very quickly brought to the verge of ruin.

The words of a man who has been the head of the Agricultural School at St. Anne de la Pocatiere for the last ten years ought to carry some weight on this point. Here they are extracted from the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1895, page 1:

To the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Colonization, Quebec:

Sir,—We have the honor to submit our report on the work done at the Agricultural School of St. Anne de la Pocatiere, both theoretical and practical, for the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1895.

We observe with regret that the general progress in so important an art (the cultivation of the soil) responds but slowly to the energetic impetus which it receives from the three sources above mentioned. (Press, lectures and special agricultural schools.)

Notwithstanding the special instructions given to all the rural population of this Province, notwithstanding even the spirit of proselytism which animates the greater number of our farmers' clubs and agricultural societies, the immense majority of our farmers still remain attached to the errors and faults of the old system of farming. If we travel through the country parts and observe carefully, it is as much as we can do to find some twenty out of the grand total of farmers who effectively cultivate in a really improving manner, and this even in parishes which

might be cited as models of progressive ideas. Still more, even amongst the farmers who were the first to enter upon the system of improvement and many have had but slight success, notwithstanding the sacrifices which they have made, and the activity with which they have carried out their farm work, their deficits have increased from year to year, and, after a longer or shorter time, they have had to face almost utter ruin.

These but too frequent disasters cannot but have evil effects upon the advancement of agricultural progress. As a rule the farmer only keeps to the same routine, because he is afraid. To induce him to change his system of cultivation it is necessary to give him a better one, and to give him irrefutable proofs that the latter will produce better results than that which he has hitherto followed, and which we wish him to abandon. To do this it is necessary to have undeniable facts, to show real increase in the revenues of the farm, and in the well-being of farmers who are known to practice progressive cultivation.

Failures in the practice of agricultural improvements have the immediate effect of stopping all progress even amongst the least refractory farmers. Most frequently they do not seek to find out the causes of their want of success, the fact is accepted, and the conclusion drawn that all progressive cultivation is ruinous. To the greater number, the words "improved cultivation" are but a synonym for amateur farming. Thus an unsurmountable obstacle is raised against these improvements for many years.

In order to make the practice of improved cultivation more general, it is necessary to employ two means of action; first, to prove to the farmers, by figures, that departure from routine is not the principal cause of the decline in our farming; secondly, to place under their eyes examples of improved cultivation which are actually remunerative. If failure in a system of progressive cultivation causes improved cultivation to be despised, as should success cause it to be sought after and adopted.

It is impossible to clearly demonstrate that the system of farming by routine is ruinous, unless it be controlled by means of well kept accounts. In that way the progressive farmer would only give his entire confidence to the system of improved cultivation offered him if the regular system of book-keeping proved to him that that system really gave the good results promised.

Thus, in the case of backward cultivation, as in that of improved cultivation, the farmer should enlighten himself by a system of regular book-keeping. Without it, there can be but guess work, followed by very disastrous results.

L. O. TREMBLAY, Priest,
Director.

Some of the Results of the Improved Culture.

The subjoined will show the state of the Agricultural School at L'Assomption which is subsidised by the Province to the tune of $4,500 per annum:

Receipts of the farm for the twelve months ending June 30th, 1896	$2,842.63
Expenses for the same period	3,551.13
DEFICIT	708.50

(See report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1896, pages 41-43.)

Financial statement of creamery *for* twelve months ending April 30th, 1896:

Total receipts	$781.73
Expenses	1,002.62
DEFICIT	$220.89

When the schools cannot make both ends meet it is not surprising that the pupils they turn out cannot.

Mr. Beaubien's Valuable Discourse.

The following amendment moved in the House on January, 7th, 1897 by Mr. Dechene will show the taxpayer where the money goes to and why the TAXERS cease not from taxing nor the HONEST MEN from struggling for power.

That this House is prepared to vote the Supplies but regrets to state:

That on the 4th October last (1896) Honorable Mr. Beaubien, Commissioner of Agriculture, at a political meeting at Nicolet, delivered before the electors, to whom he was rendering an account of his mandate a speech calculated to promote the interests of his candidature at the next general elections.

That without the authority of the House the Government has caused 2,000 copies of that speech to be printed at the expense of the Province.

That, moreover, it appears by the Votes and Proceedings of the House (page, 192) that the Government replied to the question of a member as follows:

Question.—Has the Government bought or does it propose to buy for distribution or other purposes of publicity, a certain number of copies of the speech of Honorable L. Beaubien, delivered at Nicolet on the 4th, October last?

If so; how many copies and what price did the Government pay or does it propose to pay?

Answer by the Hon. Mr. Beaubien.—The Government proposes to buy a certain number over and above the quantity received from Mr. Ayotte.

The number and cost are not as yet established.

That the following appears by the Votes and Proceedings for the House (Page 354).

Question.—Has the Government received any copies of the speech delivered by the Hon. Louis Beaubien, at Nicolet, on the 4th October, 1896, apart from the 2,000 copies received from Messrs. Ayotte and Co?

If so, how many and when?

Answer by Hon. Mr. Beaubien.—Up to now the Gazette Printing Co., of Montreal, was to have sent to the Department 10,000 copies of that speech in English. The quantity has not yet been checked.

Up to now the firm of E. Senecal & Son was to have sent 25,000 copies in French of the same speech. The quantity has not yet been checked.

That it thus appears that the Government has caused its election literature to be printed and distributed at the expense of the Province. That such conduct is contrary to the interests of the Province and constitutes a scandal which the House reproves and condemns.

A reference to the Journals will show on pages 191, 290, 254, 377 and 406 will show that the information had to be dragged out of the Government. It wanted to keep the whole transaction as snug as possible. It also appears that not satisfied with charging the Province for 37,000 of Mr. Beaubien's lucubrations at Nicolet the Government has also printed and distributed 3,000 of the same gentlemen's vapidities delivered before the unfortunates present at the opening of the Dairy School at St. Hyacinthe on the 11th March 1893.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN THE MONEY OF THE PROVINCE TO PAY FOR CAMPAIGN LITERATURE. IT HAS ALSO INTRODUCED THE MOST DANGEROUS PRACTICE OF GIVING MONEY WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE HOUSE THEREBY INFRINGING UPON THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE AND INTRODUCING THE THIN END OF TYRANT-GOVERNMENT.

The Farmers' False Friends.

In spite of the Hon. Mr. Beaubien's excessive zeal for Agriculture as exemplified in his self-sacrificing efforts at horse-rearing behind the Montreal Mountain and his having his campaign literature printed and paid for by the Province; in spite of all this conclusive evidence one feels inclined to doubt the sincerity of the "honest men" when face to face with the following resolutions which Mr. "Perche-ron" Beaubien and his Government friends voted down.

On December 27th, 1893, Mr. Bernatches proposed that the House" deems it its duty to declare that it hopes that the Government, for the purpose of protecting farmers and settlers as much as possible against the numerous losses to which they are exposed, will cause to be adopted within the shortest possible delay, a law creating a privilege on the property of all insolvent traders in favor of all farmers and settlers and all proprietors or patrons of butter, cheese or other agriculture industries, for all agricultural produce furnished or sold to the said traders within the year and day preceding such insolvency."

Lost by a vote of 33 Tories including Flynn and Beaubien, against 16 Liberals. (See Journals, Vol: XXVIII., page 367.)

On December 2nd. 1895, Mr. Bernatches moved, seconded by Mr. G. W. Stephens that: "This House is of opinion that, as a remedy for the evils from which agriculture suffers in this Province, it is urgently necessary to seek for the surest and most

expeditious means of obtaining new and remunerative markets for our agricultural produce."

This would appear to be a fit subject for the enthusiastic Mr. Beaubien to discuss: but no, the elections were not at hand and these men who are the friends of the farmers—and everybody else who has anything to give—voted it down. The following being the men who would not help the struggling farmers: Allard, Auge, Beaubien, Beauchamp, Cartier, Cholette, Chicoyne, Desjardins, Doyon, Duplessis, Flynn, Greig, Hackett, King, McDonald, McCuary, Magnan, Marion, Martineau, Nantel, Panneton, Pariseau, Pelletier, Petit, Poirier, Rioux, Ste. Marie, Spencer, Taillon, Tetreau, Villeneuve. 31 traitors to the country folk.

The Liberal phalanx as usual stood to its guns in a sturdy attempt to get the farmers some sort of justice.

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32

auchamp, Cartier ,Cholette,
esjardins, Doyon,Duplessis,
Hackett, King, McDonald,
gnan, Marion, Martineau,
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